THE COMIC READER

No. 9 (Formerly ON THE DRAWING BOARD) April 20, 1962

ON THE DRAWING BOARD:

A FANTASTIC FOUR yarn -- "Prisoners of Kurrgo, The Scourge of the Planet X!" -- which should win a prize as the longest, if not the best title of the year.
SUPERMAN (AUG/62) -- which will feature a story in which Supe is "thrown" by the great wrestling star, Antonio Rocca.
ADVENTURE (Aug/62) -- which will feature an "Imaginary Tale relating what would have happened had the world known that Superbaby had superpowers when he first came to Earth. This issue also introduces "Gold Kryptonite" -- on the stupid Bizarro World, no doubt.

MY NOMINATION FOR THE BEST STORY IN THE WORKS:

"The Last Days of Superman," a 3-part novel by science-fiction writer, Edmond Hamilton. This is not an "Imaginary" Tale.

I CAN SEE IT COMING -- A romance between the Thing and a blind girl.

DID YOU KNOW?

J'onn J'onzz has undergone plastic surgery. Artist Joe Certa has given The Martian Manhunter a new nose.
JLA artist, Mike Sekowsky, pencils many DELL books -- ELLERY QUEEN, THE TWILIGHT ZONE, and I also suspect him of ghosting Leonard Starr's ON STAGE. Compare panel 5 on page 30 with panel 5 on page 2 of JLA #2. Mike has a reputation among comics editors as one of the fastest pencil artists in the business, who can handle almost any kind of strip with equal ease.
Robin, the Boy Wonder, has been a teenager for 22 years. Once upon a time (in the late 1940's), he was old enough to fight crime on his own (in STAR SPANGLED COMICS), but today it seems he needs the help of everyone from Superman to Batgirl.

WHERE ARE THEY KNOW?

Otto Binder, who wrote the immortal Captain Marvel serials of the 1940's, and many of the great Superman stories of the 1950's (including the first Bizarro story) is now co-editor of SPACE WORLD.
Bill Woolfolk, who was once perhaps the least known but highest paid of all comics writers, is now the publisher of SPACE WORLD. Bill authored many of the all-time greats: Captain Marvel, Superman, Batman, Blackhawk, just to name a few. He is now married to the former Dorothy Roubicek (Please note the correct spelling.), who was editor of ALL-STAR COMICS from 1942 to 1944.

MAGAZINES TO ORDER:

CASTLE OF FRANKENSTEIN (50¢, Gothic Castle, Box 42, Hudson Hts., North Bergen, N.J.), which features "The Monster Crunchers," which deals with old serials, and a supernatural comic strip (about 6 pages), both by Larry Ivie, whose art will be featured in ALTER-EGO.

THE FANTASY COLLECTOR, a monthly trade fanzine listing fantasy items, comic books and strips, Big Little Books, movie stills, and other items for sale and trade. (10¢/ish or 12 issues for $1.00, George Bibby, 714 Pleasant St., Roseville, California.) Recommended.

MAGAZINES TO WATCH YOUR NEWSSTAND FOR:

SUPERMAN ANNUAL #5 -- An all-Krypton issue (On sale this June).
LOIS LANE ANNUAL #1 (On sale this June).
STRANGE TALES -- to star the Human Torch in solo action.
ASTONISH -- to feature a new Stan Lee hero, Ant Man.
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY -- to feature a 2nd new hero, Thor.
LAUGH and PEP -- now carrying short stories of the Fly, Jaguar, and Fly-Girl in solo action. Black Hood has also made a guest appearance with the Fly.
LOIS LANE (July/62) -- with an "Imaginary" Tale, "Lois Lane, the Wife of Luthor," by Jerry Siegel, the creator of Superman, the Spectre, Star Spangled Kid, Funnyman, and many other great strips of the past.

CORRECTIONS TO THE INDEX TO ALL-STAR COMICS:

Harry Lampert did not ink the Flash in issue #5; it was Harold (Hal) Wilson Sharp. X-6 is not Chad Grotsky; a careful comparison of styles has revealed that the artist is Craig Flessel. Chad did ink Flessel's pencils of the Sandman in WORLD'S FAIR 1940. (This is what fooled me.) Spelling corrections: (page 4) "Roubicek" not "Khubichek"; (page 5) "Oksner" not "Oxner"; (page 5) "Peter" not "Peters". I'm proud to say that I found all of these corrections for myself. Anyone find any others?

DON'T FORGET TO COMPLETE YOUR BALLOT IN THE 1961 POLL OF THE ACADEMY OF COMIC BOOK ARTS AND SCIENCES, AND MAIL IT TO:
ROY THOMAS, 307 GREENSFERRY RD., JACKSON, MISSOURI.

TO REQUEST THE NEXT ISSUE OF THIS NEWSLETTER ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE IN ANOTHER ENVELOPE AND MAIL IT TO:
JERRY G. BAILS, 1710 KENWOOD DRIVE INKSTER, MICHIGAN.

ALTER-EGO #4 will cover-feature

Bhvsaof Apyf Dmht Hber.
The Marvel Family

SPECIAL AUCTION -- NO MINIMUM BIDS -- PRE-1945 D.C. COMICS

I will entertain any offers for one or all of these books, but I will only notify the highest bidders.

COMIC CAVALCADE #13, Good, Flash, Wonder Woman, & Green Lantern
GREEN LANTERN #10, Fair, Introduces Vandal Savage
GREEN LANTERN #12, Good, Introduces The Gambler
GREEN LANTERN #20, Very Good, Return of The Gambler
LEADING #2, Fair
LEADING #4, Fair
LEADING #5, Good
LEADING #7, Good
LEADING #8, Good
LEADING #9, Fair
LEADING #10, Good

These magazines all feature DC's own imitation of The Justice Society of America--The Seven Soldiers of Victory starring Green Arrow, Shining Knight, Vigilante, Crimson Avenger, The Star Spangled Kid, and their partners. Book-length novels.

I also have available many dozens of fine copies of ADVENTURE. SENSATION, WONDER WOMAN and other D.C.'s from 1945-51. These are priced at $1.00 to $1.50. Send your wants, a self-addressed postcard, and please mention how much you are willing to buy at these bargain prices. Discounts on large purchases.

WRITE: JERRY G. BAILS, 1710 KENWOOD DR., INKSTER, MICHIGAN.

OLD COMIC BOOKS FOR TRADE. DATES RANGE FROM 1937 TO 1950. MOST ARE PRIOR TO 1942. MANY TITLES, MOST IN VERY GOOD TO MINT CONDITION. NO SALES! I AM SEEKING *1939* MASTER COMICS AND EARLY DELLS, CRACKAJACK, ETC. EARLY BUCK ROGERS. MANDRAKE. FLASH GO GORDON BRICK BRADFORD TARZAN.

WRITE: ED LAHMANN, 2061 E. LEGRANDE AVE., INDIANAPOLIS 3, IND.

Wanted to buy, in Very Good to Mint condition. I will pay good prices for the following comics: ALL WINNERS (everyone with Sub-Mariner), BRAVE AND BOLD #28-30, 35, & 36, HUMAN TORCH (everyone), FANTASTIC FOUR #1, FLASH #1-106, 109, 110, 113, & 118, MEN'S ADVENTURES (everyone with Human Torch), SHOW-CASE #8, 13, & 14, SUB-MARINER (everyone), YOUNG MEN (everyone with Sub-Mariner)

CONTACT: DONNA BANZHOF 1834 EAST OREGON, PHOENIX 16, ARIZONA.

A SPECIAL INVITATION TO MY FRIENDS:

As you may know, I am engaged in a project of photographing the covers of the first issues of comic magazines published before 1948. I already have excellent prints of many dozens of beautiful covers of issues dating back as far as 1936. I am now giving my good correspondents the opportunity to order copies of these prints for their own collection. In order to simplify processes and hold costs to a minimum, the prints will be available only in packets. Each packet will include 20 different jumbo prints and a sheet of data on the issues represented in the packet. As near as I can figure, it costs an average of 10¢ per print to make up and mail these packets; therefore, I am asking $2.00 for each packet. There are three different packets available at this time. (See the lists below.) I hope to make more packets available later.

Naturally, I would like to fill all orders for prints at one time; therefore, I am asking you -- if you are interested -- to send me your order before MAY 1 1962 . I am sorry, but orders received after this date may be seriously delayed. In all cases, please allow 30 days for delivery, for there will be a lot of special handling required in filling these orders. One thing I must insist upon: FULL payment must accompany ALL orders.

I am confident that as a serious comic collector, you will prize these photographs of first issues as I do, and I sincerely hope that these packets will make up for the fact that for reasons beyond my control, I will not be able to publish these photographs in ALTER-EGO, as I originally intended.

With best wishes,

Jerry G. Bails

P.S. Please do not mention this offer to your other correspondents, for this offer is not being made generally public, but is open only to my friends who receive this invitation.

PACKET A: All Hero, All Select, Amazing, America's Best, The Arrow, Atoman, The Atomic Thunderbolt, Big 3, Blue Ribbon, Captain America, Captain Marvel Story Book, Captain Tootsie, Choice, Circus, The Comics Magazine, Colossus, Crack, Crackajack Funnies, Daredevil Battles Hitler, Daring Mystery;
PACKET B: Dynamic, Exciting, Fantastic, Flame, Flash, Four Favorites, Golden Lad, The Green Hornet, Green Lama, Hit, Hoppy the Marvel Bunny, Ibis, Jackpot, Marvel, Marvel Family, Mystery Men, Movie, Mystic, Pep, Planet;
PACKET C: Plastic Man, Prize, Reg'lar Fellers Heroic, Science, Shadow, Shield-Wizard, Smash, Sparkler, Special, Special Edition, Startling, Stuntman, The Sub-Mariner, Super-Magic, Tarzan, Thrilling, Tom Mix, Top-Notch, Weird, Yankee.

I reserve the right to make substitutions in these packets when it is necessary.